

Message Text

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TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PFOR, PINR, SHUM
SUBJECT: GOP CHRISTMAS AMNESTY INCLUDES FORMER
BELAUNDE MINISTERS AND IPC OFFICIALS

SUMMARY: ON DECEMBER 21 THE GOP PROCLAIMED A SPECIAL
CHRISTMAS AMNESTY FOR 233 PERSONS. INCLUDED IN THE
LIST WERE 2 BELAUNDE GOVERNMENT CABINET MEMBERS, 2
EXECUTIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM COMPANY (IPC)
AND THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE DEFUNCT AIRLINE APSA.
END SUMMARY.

1. THE DECEMBER 22 PRESS CARRIED THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCE-
MENT OF A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS AMNESTY FOR 233 PERSONS.
THE DECREE GRANTED A PARDON TO FORMER FINANCE
MINISTER MANUEL ULLOA ELIAS AND TO FORMER JUSTICE MINIS-

TER GUILLERMO HOYOS OSORES WHO HAD
BEEN CONDEMNED IN
ABSENTIA TO 6 YEARS PRISON AND A FINE OF TEN MILLION
SOLES EACH. THEY HAD BEEN ACCUSED OF DEFRAUDING
PERU AND OF "VIOLATION OF THE PUBLIC FAITH" FOR
"ILLEGALLY" APPROVING A CONTRACT CONSIDERED BY THE
MILGOV TO BE FAVORABLE TO IPC. BOTH WERE MEMBERS OF
PRESIDENT BELAUNDE TERRY'S CABINET. ULLOA AND HOYOS
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SOUGHT ASYLUM IN THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY FOLLOWING THE
OCTOBER 1968 COUP AND LEFT FOR SPAIN WHERE THEY
HAVE REMAINED IN EXILE.

2. THE GOP ALSO DROPPED CRIMINAL BUT NOT CIVIL CHARGES
AGAINST FORMER IPC EXECUTIVES EDUARDO ELEJALDE VARGAS (ASSISTANT

MANAGER) AND FERNANDO ESPINOZA DOMINGUEZ (IPC MANAGER AND U.S. CITIZEN). THEY WERE CHARGED WITH "FRAUD" AND "VIOLATION OF PUBLIC FAITH" IN CONNECTION WITH THAT FAMOUS CONTROVERSY. THE PERUVIAN PROSECUTOR ASKED FOR A SENTENCE OF TWO YEARS IMPRISONMENT AND A SUBSTANTIAL FINE. IN 1972 THE GOP REQUESTED THEIR EXTRADITION FROM THE U.S. BUT THIS WAS NEVER REALIZED.

3. ULLOA ELIAS, A SCHOOLMATE OF PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ, WAS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN PLEASED TO RECEIVE AN AMNESTY AND EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO RETURN TO PERU TO WORK TOWARD HIS COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT AND ALSO CLEAR HIS NAME THROUGH THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM. ULLOA, FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE DAILY EXPRESO, ALLEGEDLY HOPES TO PUBLISH A WEEKLY MAGAZINE. HOYOS, ON THE OTHER HAND, REJECTED THE AMNESTY BECAUSE SUCH ACTS OF CLEMENCY ARE GRANTED TO CRIMINALS, WHICH HE VEHEMENTLY CONTENTS HE IS NOT. HOYOS STATED THAT HE WOULD ONLY RETURN IF THERE WERE A GOP REVIEW OF HIS LEGAL CASE.

3. COMMENT: THE INCLUSION OF FORMER BELAUNDE MINISTERS IN THE CHRISTMAS AMNESTY OVERSHADOWS THE PARDON FOR 200 OTHER INDIVIDUALS. THE DECREE IS INTENDED TO DEMONSTRATE GOP MAGNANIMITY AND THE GOVERNMENT MAY HOPE IT WILL HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON PERU'S INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS IMAGE WITH A SPECIAL VIEW TO THE CONCERNS OF THE INCOMING CARTER ADMINISTRATION. THE AMNESTY FOR SIGNATORIES OF THE TALARA ACT FINALLY CLOSES THE BOOK ON THAT BITTER EXPROPRIATION CASE WITH ITS OVERRIDING POLITICAL IMPORT.
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IT MAY ALSO RELATE TO A RENEWED GOP EFFORT TO ATTRACT FOREIGN CAPITAL AND TO SIGNAL THAT FOREIGN ENTERPRISES WILL BE TREATED FAIRLY.
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